

PRESS RELEASE

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For further information contact:

Jason Hancock SD Legislative Research Council 500 East Capitol Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070 (605) 773-3251

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2015 Legislative Leadership

PIERRE – The newly-elected House and Senate majority and minority parties met in caucus today to determine legislative leadership for the 2015-2016 South Dakota Legislature. The new leaders are looking forward to working together.

House Republicans nominated Rep. Dean Wink (R-Howes) for Speaker of the House, and elected the following members to majority leadership positions:

Speaker Pro Tempore: Rep. G. Mark Mickelson (R-Sioux Falls)

Majority Leader: Rep. Brian Gosch (R-Rapid City)
Assistant Majority Leader: Rep. Steven Westra (R-Sioux Falls)

Majority Whip: Rep. Jim Bolin (R-Canton)

Majority Whip: Rep. Kris Langer (R-Dell Rapids)
Majority Whip: Rep. Mike Stevens (R-Yankton)
Majority Whip: Rep. Don Haggar (R-Sioux Falls)

House Democrats elected the following members to minority leadership positions:

Minority Leader: Rep. Spencer Hawley (D-Brookings)
Assistant Minority Leader: Rep. Julie Bartling (D-Gregory)
Minority Whip: Rep. Paula Hawks (D-Hartford)
Minority Whip: Rep. Dean Schrempp (D-Lantry)

Senate Republicans nominated Sen. Corey Brown (R-Gettysburg) for President Pro Tempore, and elected the following members to majority leadership positions:

Majority Leader: Sen. Timothy Rave (R-Baltic)

Assistant Majority Leader: Sen. Dan Lederman (R-Dakota Dunes)
Majority Whip: Sen. Ried Holien (R-Watertown)

Majority Whip: Sen. Ernie Otten (R-Tea)
Majority Whip: Sen. Deb Soholt (R-Sioux Falls)

Senate Democrats elected the following members to minority leadership positions:

Minority Leader: Sen. Billie Sutton (D-Burke)
Assistant Minority Leader: Sen. Troy Heinert (D-Mission)
Minority Whip: Sen. Jim Peterson (D-Revillo)
Minority Whip: Sen. Scott Parsley (D-Madison)